LORDOMYRMA BENSONI (HYM., FORMICIDAE), A SPECIES OF ANT NEW
TO SCIENCE FROM NEW GUINEA

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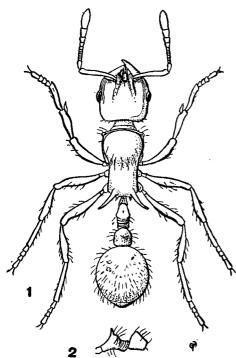
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Lordomyrma bensoni sp.n.

Q. Black shining; mandibles, clypeus, antennae, legs and epinotal spines reddish, clothed with sparse, longer and shorter outstanding hairs.

Head without mandibles subquadrate, with a few very fine small sparse punctures, posterior angles rounded, posterior border slightly excised in middle; mandibles rather



Figs. 1-2.—1, Lordomyrma bensoni sp.n.; 2, side view of petiole and post-petiole.

large, triangular, smooth and shining with a very few fine punctures at base, apical tooth sharp, masticatory border armed with a few very small dentules; clypeus straight in middle of anterior border sinuate on each side, bluntly pointed posteriorly, margined on each side, and projecting between the frontal carinae; frontal carinae with lobes which are longitudinally striate, divergent behind, with a row of punctures along the divergent parts; frontal area indistinct; frontal furrow consisting of a very short longitudinal line; the anterior part of the head on cheeks and along sides of eyes longitudinally striate; eyes moderate, round, convex; antennae 12-jointed; scape not quite reaching posterior border of head, funiculus increasing in breadth to apex, with 3-jointed club, 1st broader and longer than the next 5 joints, 2-7 transverse, last joint long and pointed, longer than the two preceding taken together. Thorax robust, with a fairly broad neck, longer than broad, narrowed to base, broadest at humeral angles; pro-mesonotum very convex and rounded; pronotum with a strongly margined border above neck and projecting flattened humeral angles; impression between meso- and epinotum rather wide and deep; epinotum armed with two long sharply pointed divergent spines, curved and pointing out-wards, declivity concave. Petiole with a rather long peduncle and sharply pointed node; post-petiole slightly broader than petiole, rounded at sides, bluntly pointed

above; gaster round, very slightly longer than broad, first segment considerably longer than the rest. Legs moderately long. Long, 3.8 mm.

Described from two workers, Maffin Bay, Dutch New Guinea, August, 1944, E. J. Ross Coll. Type in the Science Museum, California Academy of Sciences.

The spines in this species are longer and more divergent than in any others of the genus; being like those of some species of *Acidomyrmex*.

This species is described in honour of my friend Mr. R. B. Benson, the eminent authority on the Tenthredinidae (sawflies).

British Museum (Nat. Hist.), London, S.W.7. July 10th, 1948.